

The Collegian

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Volume 117, Number 6 - Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Saint Mary's College of California

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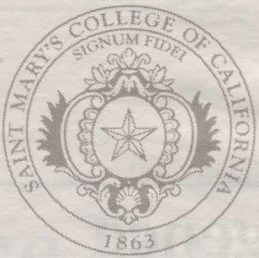
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The Collegian

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

MORAGA, CALIFORNIA • VOLUME 117, NUMBER 6 • STMARYSCOLLEGIAN.COM • TWITTER: @SMC_COLLEGIAN • FACEBOOK.COM/SMCCOLLEGIAN

Museum of Art Opens New Exhibits



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, April Funcke, Jessica Dunne (whose work, 'The Beholder', is on the left), and Diane Rosenblum (whose work, 'Artist's Statement 7-15-2003', is on the right). (Courtesy of Sean Heiskell)

BY: SEAN HEISKELL
NEWS WRITER

Students, faculty, and artists gathered Thursday evening at the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art to celebrate the opening of Feminizing Permanence, an exhibit that celebrates and recognizes women artists. In particular, it aims to highlight the underrepresentation of women artists in museum collections across the country. Although almost one-half of living artists in the United States are women, works by women artists make up approximately twelve percent of American museum collections and only eleven percent of museum acquisitions. According to April Bojorquez, the museum's curator, this startling disparity prompted the Twitter movement #5WomenArtists. It challenges the public to name prominent women in the field. This in turn galvanized the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive to launch what has since become a nationwide art initiative, the Feminist Art Coalition. This grassroots movement has since grown to feature the work of women artists in seventy-one institutions across the country.

In this spirit, the works of over forty women artists from the Museum of Art's permanent collection are on display. Many of these artists were in attendance Thursday night. April Funcke, whose still life, *Bon Ami*, is displayed in the exhibit, was pleased that the exhibit gave greater acknowledgment to the variety of women artists. Diane Rosenblum, whose piece is entitled *Artist's Statement 7-15-2003*, expressed her belief that being an artist is a lifelong process. In addition to em-

phasizing the need for a strong practical education in the craft, Rosenblum views the significance of learning to think as an artist as being vital.

Both women named an organization called the Guerrilla Girls as being particularly inspiring. Founded in New York City in 1985, the Guerrilla Girls are an activist group that aims to combat sexism and racism in the art world. They were formed in response to the Museum of Modern Art's decision to compile a roster of 165 artists they considered worthy. Thirteen of those artists named on the roster were women. The history of this group underscores the strong disparities that still exist in this area. According to Bojorquez, the objective of Feminizing Permanence is not only to make it evident that women are severely underrepresented, but also "to examine why women artists are seen as having less value." Furthermore, this exhibit emphasizes that "each of these women are distinct artists with their distinct voices."

Another exhibit displayed in the Museum of Art is *Sign of the Times: The Great American Political Poster, 1844-2012*. Visitors to this exhibit will see the fascinating development of art utilized for political campaigns. This exhibit features political art from as early as the 1844 presidential election between Whig Party candidate Henry Clay and Democratic Party candidate James K. Polk to as recently as the reelection of President Barack Obama. In between these two bookends, campaign posters

from 1890 to 1912 (in what is called the 'golden age of lithography'), propaganda posters from the Second World War, and counterculture-influenced posters from the late sixties and early seventies are presented.

The various artwork in *Sign of the Times* are revealing about the eras in which they were made. The 1960s ushered in a period of explosive artistic creativity. The Civil Rights Movement, rock 'n' roll, the counterculture, and opposition to the Vietnam War combined to make the political artwork of the era uniquely eye-catching and meaningful. The use of vibrant color stands out from previous campaign posters. This height of artistic creativity in political campaign posters seems to have reached a crest in 1972, during the unsuccessful candidacy of Senator Eugene McCarthy.

Perhaps the most interesting section to visitors of *Sign of the Times* may be the campaign posters of iconic American politicians who did not reach the White House, such as those of Representative Shirley Chisholm in 1972 and Senator Edward Kennedy in 1980. Although the political poster suffered a decline in American politics, it made a strong comeback in 2008, when artists utilized the power of social media to share their political posters online during the election of President Obama. Both *Feminizing Permanence* and *Sign of the Times: The Great American Political Poster, 1844-2012* reveal art's relevance to the public of today and yesteryear.

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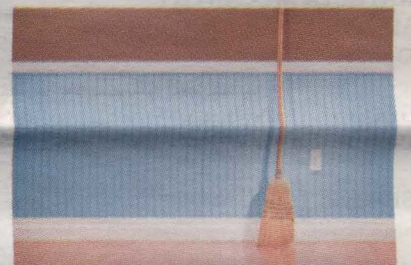


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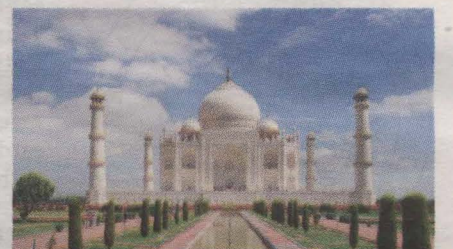


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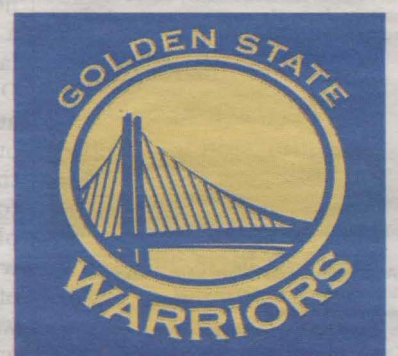


SPORTS

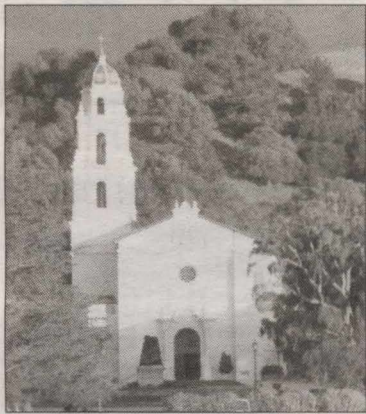
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The Collegian

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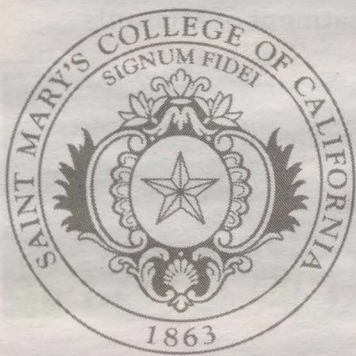
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"To act upon one's convictions while others wait,
To create a positive force in a world
where cynics abound,
To provide information to people when
it wasn't available before,
To offer those who want it, a choice—"
—TED TURNER

Trump Fires Director of National Intelligence

BY: BRAD NEAL
NEWS WRITER

Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation uncovered two strategies that the Russian's employed to interfere in the 2016 election. The Internet Research Agency, a Russian company engaged in online influence, perpetrated a social media campaign designed to foment political and social discord within the United States. In 2014 and 2015, the IRA ran a relatively generalized operation to undermine the U.S.'s electoral system, and then by early 2016, the company narrowed their operation towards supporting Donald Trump and running Hillary Clinton into the dirt. The IRA bought political advertisements on social media in the names of U.S. persons and entities, organized political rallies in the US, masqueraded as US grassroots organizations and persons, and went so far as to communicate with Trump supporters and Trump Campaign officials.

As a second strategy, Russia leveraged a government-arm—the Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Army—to commit cyber intrusions (hacking) and to release the hacked materials—materials that were devastating for Hillary Clinton's

campaign. In March 2016, The GRU hacked the email accounts of Clinton Campaign volunteers and employees, and even the campaign chairman, John Podesta. In April 2016, the GRU committed cyber intrusions into the computer networks of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the Democratic National Committee. The GRU stole hundreds of thousands of documents and released hacked materials via WikiLeaks. Donald Trump's campaign displayed interest in the kind of information that WikiLeaks had and embraced any damaging information that they had on Hillary Clinton. Less than one hour after a US media outlet published a video of Donald Trump making salacious comments about women, WikiLeaks released John Podesta's stolen emails. In July 2016, in sworn testimony, Michael Cohen claimed he overheard Roger Stone—who was found guilty on seven felony counts: five counts of making false statements to Congress, one count of obstruction of Congress, and one count of witness tampering with the House Intelligence Committee inquiry and special counsel Robert's Mueller's investigation—tell Donald Trump that he had spoken with the founder of WikiLeaks, Julian Assange,

and that Mr. Assange planned to release emails that were "damaging to Hillary Clinton."

On February 13, American intelligence officials informed the House Intelligence Committee that Russia is intending to interfere with the 2020 Democratic primaries and the general election to help get Donald Trump re-elected. The next day, President Trump lambasted Joseph Maguire, the acting director of national intelligence, for allowing the meeting to happen. On February 19, the president announced that he was going to replace Joseph Maguire with Richard Grenell, the ambassador to Germany. "Trump is trying to whitewash or rewrite the narrative about Russia's involvement in the election," Ms. Kendall-Taylor said to the New York Times. "Grenell's appointment suggests he is really serious about that."

On February 21, President Trump said that the American intelligence officials' assertion that Russia is interfering in the U.S. election is just another sectarian attack against him. "Another misinformation campaign is being launched by Democrats in Congress saying that Russia prefers me to any of the Do Nothing Democrat candidates who still have been unable to, after two weeks, count their votes in Iowa," President Trump wrote

on Twitter. "Hoax number 7!" It needs to be noted that the intelligence officials are nonpartisan public servants that have no interest or stake in American politics. It seems unclear and suspicious why Trump gets so cantankerous when intelligence officials, who do have a stake in protecting the safety of our country, aver that Russia hacked the 2016 election and that they plan to do so again in 2020. And also disturbing that he believes Russia hasn't and will not interfere in U.S. elections. "He said he didn't meddle," President Trump said in November 2017. "I asked him again. You can only ask so many times. Every time he sees me, he says, 'I didn't do that.' And I believe, I really believe, that when he tells me that, he means it." It might not be perspicacious to believe him when, according to the Washington Post, he's lied more than 16,500 times to the American people.

More recently, a Washington Post report claimed that a US official told Bernie Sanders that Russia is trying to help his campaign. "Unlike Donald Trump, I do not consider Vladimir Putin a good friend. He is an autocratic thug who is attempting to destroy democracy and crush dissent in Russia," Bernie Sanders said in a statement on February 21. "Let's be clear, the Russians want to un-

CONTINUED ONTO PAGE 3

Moraga News Update

BY: MATTHEW MCFETRIDGE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Often times, it seems as though very little goes on in the so commonly described "sleepy" town of Moraga, CA. However, that it is not the case! Because of a great publication, Moraga's own "About Town Newsletter," many interesting and informative local events are highlighted for your own knowledge.

The Moraga Police Department have had an increase in reports of what the publication refers to as "credit/debit card skimming." This crime occurs mainly at gas stations along with ATMs, and is the practice of reading a card's magnetic strip while capturing the card's pin as well. This can be done with a false keypad and/or by camera. To prevent this from happening to you and your friends, keep an eye out for card readers that appear to be tampered or loose, as well as cameras positioned in view of your pin. Another solution is that you may want to pay inside at gas stations just to be sure. All questions, inquiries, and reports can be directed to the Moraga Police Department's dispatch phone number (925) 284-5010.

The town of Moraga has announced the desire to launch of a restaurant at the Hacienda de las Flores property on Donald Drive. This beautiful location is an authentic Spanish style mansion, owned by the town of Moraga. In the past, it has often been used for weddings, receptions, and photoshoots. This new request would place a constant source of revenue at the location which would be a full service restaurant with catering services. If this plan

come to fruition, Moraga would gain a great new restaurant at a beautiful location. Interested parties have been asked to tour the site and submit their proposals for a restaurant by March 9, 2020.

As the year 2020 kicks off, the Town Council has announced thirteen goals they hope to achieve in the new year. A few of the key goals are: quality public safety, construction of a new bridge on Canyon Road, business attraction and retention, and the previously mentioned new use of the Hacienda de las Flores property. In light of recent events, their desire for an improvement of public safety likely stems from their concerns. With the shooting in Orinda last year and the most recent case just this past month, public safety for this community is something they hope to improve on. Business attraction is another point they made that I find particularly important. More so in the Moraga Shopping Center than the Rheem one, there is a need to fill the vacant buildings that only work to prove the sleepiness of this town. Their goal to make Moraga more attractive to businesses is a tough one, mainly because of our low population and remote location. However, with businesses like Canyon Club Brewery and the new Chase Bank opening, it appears that some progress is being made.

If you are interested in the town of Moraga's issues and news, you can attend their Town Council meetings at 335 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556. For more information on dates and times, refer to www.moraga.ca.us.

5A RENT-A-SPACE
IS ST. MARY'S
STORAGE PLACE

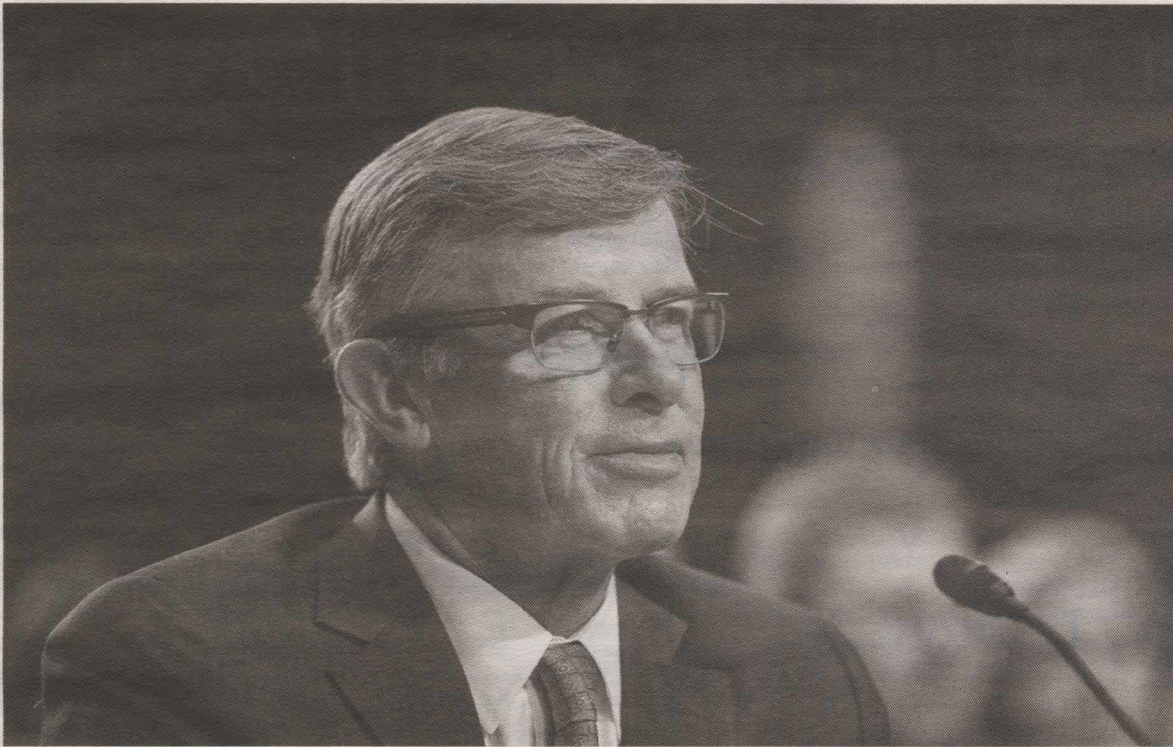
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NEWS



(Courtesy of Al Drago/Getty Images)

Trump Fires Director

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

dermine American democracy by dividing us up and, unlike the current president, I stand firmly against their efforts, and any other foreign power that wants to interfere in our election. I don't care, frankly, who Putin wants to be president. My message to Putin is clear: stay out of American elections, and as president I will make sure that you do." This seems like a person who wants nothing to do with Vladimir Putin. Though I'm not sure the same could be said about the current president.

Campus Calendar

Faith Sharing Community with Father Hai

Tuesday, February 25
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Location: Cassin Student Union
Contact: Father Hai Ho
hnh3@stmarys-ca.edu

44 Days: Black Mental Health Series

Tuesday, February 25
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Dante Hall, Soda Activity Center; Moraga Room or Dante, Room 204

Close Looking At Art

Wednesday, February 26
10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Location: De La Salle Hall; Hagerty Lounge
Thursday, February 27
Location: Soda Center, Orinda Room
Contact: Tiffany Denman, Informal Curriculum Coordinator
seminaric@stmarys-ca.edu

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 26
1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 26
5:15 p.m. (Mass)
Wednesday, February 26
8:00 p.m. (Mass)
Location: Chapel
Contact: Brother David Caretti
brotherdavid@stmarys-ca.edu

Resume Workshop

Wednesday, February 26
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Location: De La Salle Hall, Hagerty Lounge
Contact: CPDS (925)631-4600

Global Executive MBA Project Presentations

Thursday, February 27
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Location: De La Salle Hall, Hagerty Lounge
Contact: Catherine Barbagallo
cab11@stmarys-ca.edu

Tournees Film Festival: The Sower

Friday, February 28
7:00 p.m.
Location: De La Salle Hall, Hagerty Lounge
Contact: Ana Ramirez
amr18@stmarys-ca.edu
Helga Lenart-Cheng
hl4@stmarys-ca.edu

Justice Action Summit with featured speaker Victoria Matey Mendoza

Saturday, February 29
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Location: De La Salle Hall, Hagerty Lounge
Contact: (925)631-8318
crr1@stmarys-ca.edu

Womens Club Volleyball @ Regionals TBD

Saturday, February 29
10:30 a.m.

The Campus Calendar column is a service highlighting major events of the week. To include your event, email details to staff@stmaryscollegian.com.

One-Stop Job Shop: An Interview

BY: JOSEPH FOARD
NEWS WRITER

To begin the Orientation session for the One-Stop Job Shop fair in March, a small mental exercise was held. The rules were simple: everyone would stand up and listen to a set of details about an unspecified job; when an attendee heard a detail that would make them refuse the job, they would sit down.

At first, the details about the job were appealing: — employees would work in a “plush environment” and have salaries in the tens of thousands of dollars per month. As more details about the job were revealed, the less savory it looked: work would be for nine-hour shifts six days a week, required wearing a uniform, and involved standing for extended periods of time. As the speaker read the final details — the hours were from eight P.M. to midnight, and the job was considered “morally objectionable” by some — only one student was left standing.

“The job is a Blackjack dealer,” revealed Beverly McLean, the speaker and designer for the workshop; an orientation for the One-Stop Job Shop, a job fair held on the Saint Mary's campus hosting a variety of employers across different fields. “It can be called a job fair,” said Paula Conrad, employer relations and internship manager at Saint Mary's College, as well as the provider of the “Paula's Hot Picks” emails showcasing current internship opportunities.

“We give it the title of ‘One-Stop Job Shop’ to brand it...and also because it's the one place in spring the students can go where they're going to meet up to seventy or so employers who are all hiring.”

Employers hiring at the One-Stop Job Shop include footwear and apparel company Nike, MLB

team the Oakland Athletics, radio and TV station KQED, and the Moraga Country Club, in addition to “quite a few schools coming, looking for teachers.”

“It's not just for seniors looking for their first job,” Conrad said.

“It's an orientation on how to get prepared,” McLean said of the event. “A job description has many aspects to it, so while a job description may seem appealing initially, you really need to do enough research to see if the job is a good fit, and if the company is a good fit. So it's really important to do the homework and do the research.”

To this end, the orientation covered a variety of subjects related to job interviews and employment applications, ranging from researching potential employers to proper attire for a job interview. A resume workshop was held immediately before the orientation.

The orientation occurred on Thursday, February 20th, but another orientation session will be held in the Soda Center at 5PM on the 26th.

“We've got exactly the same next week, but flipped,” Conrad said. “so today it was the resume first, and then the orientation; next week, next Thursday, it's going to be the orientation first and then the resume workshop. So exactly the same information will be made available in a week's time.”

“We...provide different times for students to attend,” said McLean, “because we know that they have class schedules to work around, so that's the reason we do that a second time.”

The One-Stop Job Shop itself is scheduled to be held in the Soda Center on March 5th from four to seven PM.

One-Stop Job Shop

How to get started

ATTEND ORIENTATION
Familiarize yourself with everything One-Stop Job Shop! At orientation, you'll find out what to expect and how to meet the resume approval requirement.

2/20/20 Thursday 6pm Claeys Lounge	OR	2/26/20 Wednesday 5pm Hagerty Lounge
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ATTEND A RESUME WORKSHOP

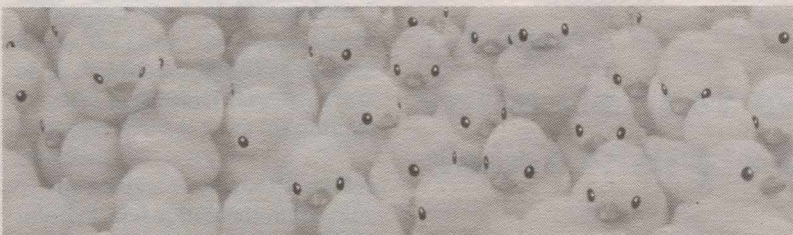
2/20/20 Thursday 5pm Claeys Lounge	OR	2/26/20 Wednesday 6pm Hagerty Lounge
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****HAVE YOUR RESUME APPROVED**

Step 1 All participants must have their resume approved and signed by a CPDS staff member	Step 2 Deliver a copy of your APPROVED and signed resume to CPDS by 2/28/20 @ 3pm
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RESUME APPROVAL HOURS AT CPDS
Mon - Fri 10a - 4p
Special Drop In Hours during this timeframe only:
Weds 2/26/20 thru Fri 2/28/20
10a - 4p First Come First Served

****REQUIRED FOR ONE STOP JOB SHOP ATTENDANCE**



(Courtesy of mycustomer.com)

(Courtesy of CPDS)

CULTURE

Jan Term Word Search for 2020

BY GEORGE DONOVAN
CULTURE WRITERS

Name: _____

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net Word Se

Lenten Word Search 2020

Find what you could be giving up for lent!

W	F	P	U	U	C	H	Z	K	D	Y	T	U	E	W	T	F	C	Y	G
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CHOCOLATE
COMPLAINING
LATE NIGHT
MOVIE TRAILERS
SODA
SUGAR

CLOTHES
DRIVING
MEAT
OLD
STAYING UP
SWEARING

COFFEE
EARBUDS
MOBILE GAMES
SOCIAL MEDIA
STREAMING

CULTURE

Inside the NASA Broom Challenge

BY GEORGE DONOVAN
CULTURE WRITER

With a refreshing week-long break kickoff, a brilliant Super Bowl in Miami and a truly miraculous Oscar night, February strapped on its skates and went flying by beneath lovely blue sky after blue sky. And as we unpacked our bags and crowded the bookstore to get back into the swing of college life on February 10th, things were getting a little vertical back on the Internet. That day, Twitter user @mikaiylaaaaa shared a video with exciting news: According to NASA, this was the only day a broom could stand up on its own without any external support, thanks to the unique gravitational pull Earth was experiencing that day. Her enthusiasm was contagious, as each new video or photo helped spread the word of the incredible discovery. The waves upon waves of users inspired by each take could even outnumber the bristles on each broom that found itself stood up in kitchens and condos from coast to coast. Without having to move an inch, the brooms of the NASA Broom Challenge were a sensation sweeping the nation.

Gaels who hadn't touched a broom in months were practically racing to find one in their nearest suitemate or RA's closet, and once you could, the challenge was on to leave it at that perfect angle. Suddenly, your average hallway or bathroom entrance became a mu-

seum of magic with a respected no touch policy; "Who was the mysterious local hero who propped this broom up?", you might ask yourself passing by. It had to be the biggest and most riveting feat of pinpoint prop performance since we flipped water bottles at our old lunch tables back in 2016. February 10th eventually had to come to an end, but the brooms stayed the same, and the fun kept going without the fear of missing the planet's special conditions by a day. How could this be?

The Exploratorium, a true San Francisco institution in science edutainment, was happy to help explain the physics behind the fad on their own Twitter account. "As long as the center of mass of the broom is above the area of support, it will stand on its own", they wrote. If a cube or sphere's center of mass aligns with its geometric center, a broom's would be tougher to find; the center of mass in a broom would likely be towards the bristles within the broomstick, with its area of support, the surfaces touching the ground, running along the bottom of the bristles. As long as the center of mass stays above the support, they concluded, your broom will be stable.

For many onlookers, it was easy to see through the NASA connections if you chose to, especially once the date was debunked. And broomstick standing had also been a trend back in 2017 and 2012

on the Spring Equinox of these respective years, when the Earth lines up with the Sun's axis for a near equal night and day length. But with a five week lead, this is the most perfect time of the year for this sort of inspired challenge to appear. If you went home over break, did you smell the flowers of your neighborhood after nighttime came around, flush with inspiration to do great things and reach for the sky? Or did your Jan Term set you on a course to further appreciate the wonders of the coming blooming world? The tie-ins to a NASA announcement that came with this version of the challenge took the offbeat idea of a standing broomstick and made from it something extraordinary. We cherish this sort of wonder and optimism as humans, especially going into Spring, when our dreams from January come into play as the world steps out into nature again. Even if this story isn't as truly monumental as last April's first captured photo of a black hole, this spirit created a convincing backdrop to the timeless entertainment quality of standing a broomstick. Feel free to keep it going around your family, or conceive ways to take it up a notch, like combining it with stop-motion filmmaking to get your broom 'walking'. Now, in these marvelous Spring months, is the most perfect time to let your creativity scale the highest hills and wave back down to share its gifts.



It's just standing there... menacingly! (Courtesy of @exploratorium on twitter)

BASS Film Festival

BY VICTORIA VIDALES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Friday, February 28th, the Art and Art History Department are presenting the second annual Bay Area Student Student Shorts, a film festival for local college students. Held from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Soda Center, the event gives college students an opportunity to present their self made films to an audience, enjoying both their own work, and the work of their fellow peers. Students from all over the Bay Area participate in the event, preparing films all year long to be shared with the public and peers exploring the cinematic arts.

"BASS is very passionate and excited about supporting student filmmakers, and we highly encourage the Saint Mary's Community to come out and participate in this fun and exciting event" Operations Coordinator for the festival, Gabriella Ramirez said.

The event was originally created by Art major, Kasey James '19 who "saw there was a lack of film opportunities for Bay Area students and decided to do something about it. She was dedicated to provide a venue for Bay Area students to showcase their work and make connections with other student filmmakers." Under the supervision of professor of Art Practice, Laura Miller, the next generation of Saint Mary's students have been hard at work to continue the event.

The festival is meant to explore interest, and appreciation for film, encouraging students to turn their passions into their career path.

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February 28th
7-10pm
Soda Center @
Saint Mary's College

Interested in getting involved? Email
gir3@stmarys-ca.edu

COME CHECK OUT a film festival for college students! (Courtesy of @bayareastudentshorts)

For many students, this event is an important opportunity to get exposure for their work and to meet like-minded emerging filmmakers. The energy at the festival is nothing but positive and supportive to create an accepting environment for students' creativities to thrive.

"The film festival promotes arts leadership on the Saint Mary's campus, because it is a student-run initiative. It also promotes arts scholarship by providing a forum for Bay Area student filmmakers," Professor Miller said.

While the event is created by members of the Saint Mary's community, college students from all over the Bay Area are invited and encouraged to participate. Films will be shown by students from Stanford, the University of San Francisco, SFSU, Mills College, Diablo Valley College, and the California College of Arts, etc.

"We are committed to supporting the students in their creative pursuits by providing them a venue to showcase their work" Ramirez said.

The event is widely supported by the Saint Mary's community, drawing student involvement from across campus, across disciplines. BASS 2020 is collaboratively run by SOLA students Gabriella Ramirez, Colette Huber, Stephanie Ramirez, with assistance from Caed Folkestad and Amanda Moser. The team hopes to have a wide turn out of Saint Mary's students not only presenting, but attending the event to support their peers.

For students interested in getting involved with the festival, please contact Laura Miller at lem6@stmarys-ca.edu! More information can be found on the website bayareastudentshorts.com.

OPINION

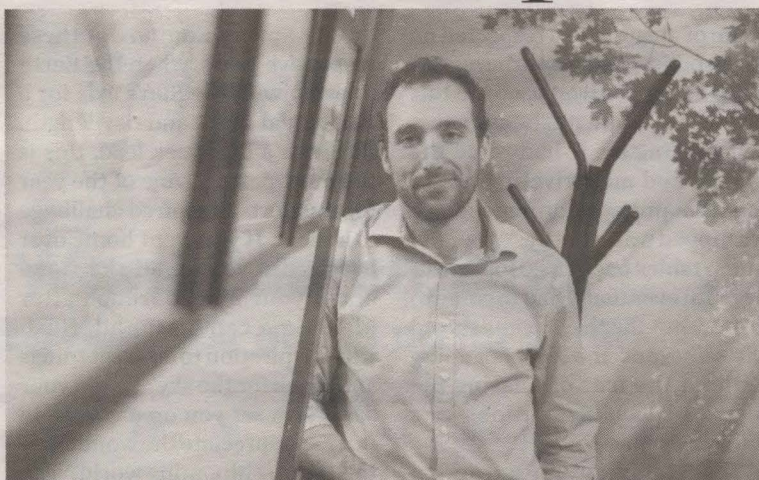
Former Asylum Officer Speaks Out

BY MELANIE MOYER
OPINION WRITER

Former asylum officer Doug Stephens revealed his disturbing reason for resigning from his position in a New York Times article last month, pointing out the injustice that is underway in our asylum programs associated with Mexico. Stephens began working as an asylum officer in September 2017 until his resignation two years later “to protest President Trump’s policy requiring migrants to remain in Mexico while awaiting hearings.” Stephens feels as though the work he was told to do was “illegal and immoral” and “voiced his dissent” by resigning. This comes in the wake of other asylum officers describing similar sentiments, bringing into question whether America’s asylum program has been debased by recent changes made by President Trump.

Since Trump took office, asylum-seekers have been given stricter requirements to qualify to

take refuge in our country, specifically those coming across the Mexican border. For example, Trump has established asylum fees and ceased to acknowledge domestic abuse and gang violence as reasons for asylum. He was even quoted saying “our country is full... so turn around.” The breaking point for Stephens was Trump’s Remain in Mexico Policy, for he was forced to send people in imminent danger back to what would surely be their death as they await asylum. Stephens claims that the Trump administration is attempting to destroy the asylum program with his strict requirements as well. During the time he spent in his position, he saw that the amount of proof required to prove one cannot stay in their home country for their safety is higher than it has ever been before. Now, he states that asylum seekers have to prove that they are threatened through faulty phone lines without access to a lawyer, no time to rest, and no time to



Doug Stephens. (Courtesy of Josh Edelson/The Los Angeles Times)

gather evidence. To him, the current system makes it so “everybody fails.” This insensitivity and lack of proper accommodation for people in need put Stephens and coworkers in disturbing positions that proved the faults in Trump’s new rigidity as cruel and against American ideals. One of Stephen’s breaking points was a coworker’s experience with an asylum-seeker who, despite being raped by Mexican police officers when searching for help, was denied asylum and told to move to another part of the country. Stephen’s purpose of coming out and being a seeming

“whistle-blower” for the asylum program is to rally for change in the program. In his New York Times story, he states that “this isn’t a partisan issue, it is in Congress’ power to stop these illegal activities.” He claims that to shut our door on people in need and reject individuals that we say we’re gonna accept on the Statue of Liberty is destroying out American ideals.

The Right of Asylum is integral to American ideals and Western culture, so to deny those in need of asylum is to deny a fundamental aspect of our country’s morality. The Right to Asylum traces its roots

back to the Egyptians, the Greeks, and the Hebrew, thus showing its importance in the Western tradition. In the US, the government recognizes people’s right to asylum and enacts it with two basic requirements: that people must establish that they live in fear of prosecution in their home country and that they must prove they would be persecuted on accounts of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or particular social group. With this in mind, we as Americans cannot let this exclusion and denial of those in need go further than it already has. Our country’s past of “othering” minority groups is perpetuated when we turn our backs on those in need because of our prejudices. Let us not forget the Mother of Exiles’s words, “give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

Jan Term 2020: On the Streets of India

BY MELANIE MOYER
OPINION WRITER

Since India is on the other side of the planet and at least a sixteen hour flight away from SFO, one does not often think of it as their first vacation spot. Further, many stigmas surround the country, and while most of them are unfounded, many Americans do not choose the country as a place to visit. When I told people I planned on spending my January traveling around India with a professor and class of twenty-four people, I got mixed reactions. For the most part, people were surprised I wanted to make the trek to the sub-continent, let alone spend a month there. Although India is known for its rich cultural relationship with religion, picturesque and ecologically diverse regions, and fascinating culture, many people who I interacted with before the trip had negative prejudices

against the country. Many thought of its reputation of being unclean and littered when discussing their apprehension. Before I left for the trip, I had the impression that the dirty streets, plethora of cows, polluted air, and littered trash would be a marker for my impression of the trip and country.

From the moment I got off of the plane in Mumbai until I got back on a month later in New Delhi, I was in complete awe of the country and the beauty it had to offer. It is hard to put into words what I felt and witnessed in India, but I can say the stigmas that keep many away are preventing them from witnessing one of the most spectacular places our world has to offer. However, I refuse to sugar-coat what I saw, for I feel it would be an injustice to the experience and country. The pollution and litter were present in noticeable

ways, and I saw they were mostly found in densely populated or poorer areas. There were also as many cows as I expected, but I for one think cows are cool and saw great value in their presence. Nonetheless, I did not feel the negative perception of the country based on its cleanliness was warranted, for the pollution and litter we did see was considerably less than others made it out to be. Further, our trip was led by a local tour guide with a solid understanding of the country’s history and political realm, so he often shared about the politics that went behind the litter and pollution in India. Often, people did not have places to dispose of their trash properly and much of the pollution was due to necessary actions such as work to repair the old roads. Despite this, there is an extensive effort being made

by many inhabitants of the country to clean it up. Our guide in Mumbai spoke to us about the pollution they’re battling on the beaches and in the water surrounding the city. She told us the micro-plastics in the ocean are of great concern to the city’s inhabitants, so she and a group of people spend their days off removing the plastic trash from the beaches. During our time in the Himalayas, we saw several murals and other pieces of art advocating more of an environmental effort from the individual. Perhaps the most convincing effort we learned of was the Swachh Bharat Abhi or the Clean India Mission, a mission that took place from 2014-2019 and focused on improving the cleanliness of the country. Started by acting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the project was aimed at improving the country’s cleanliness

such as preventing open defecation by constructing new public and private toilets, as well as cleaning the streets of both urban and rural areas. Thus, the India one may have experienced in 2013 is not the same India one will find today.

Overall, I felt the individual and institutional efforts aimed at saving the environment were comparable to, if not greater than, the efforts we see in our own country. India’s dedication to their environment is an effort many of those who define it by its cleanliness lack. With this being said, spending a month learning about and from the country was a time I recommend to anyone looking for their next JanTerm or adventure, the cleanliness will be the least of your worries when you come face to face with the wonder that is India.

OPINION

The Duty Of A Christian

BY KATELYN MCCARTHY
OPINION WRITER

Students of Seminar will be familiar with readings in which the integrity of Christians throughout history is put to the test. I think here specifically of Bartolomé de las Casas' sixteenth century letter, *A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies*, in which he details the atrocities committed by some of the Spanish soldiers against the native peoples of the New World. A question that might be brought up in discussion of this reading is, "How could Christians have behaved so cruelly, ostensibly under the guise of evangelization? What merit can such a Christianity have?" Las Casas himself notes an incident of such thinking, when a local chieftain, having been told the basics of Christianity by a good preacher shortly before the soldiers were set to execute him, stated that he would rather burn in Hell than go to Heaven, if that was where the Christians went. Christians who do not behave as they ought, like some of the Spanish soldiers, both deter their non-Christian brothers and reflect on the Church as a whole. The Church is challenged by individuals who

ask how a religion, some of whose adherents have acted inhumanely, can be an admirable institution. 500 years after las Casas' writing, the image of Christ's Church is still tarnished by the soldiers' acts. Of course, every Christian—not just Spanish conquistadores—is accountable for upholding the dignity of the Church. But, even if that dignity be slighted, Christians as a whole ought not be judged based on the actions of their counterparts. We bear a collective responsibility for each other's deeds, but not a collective guilt.

In the Book of Genesis, Cain, after murdering his brother, Abel, is questioned by God as to Abel's whereabouts. Cain responds, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" (NAB, Gen. 4:9) This response does not jibe so well with God, Who subsequently heaps punishments upon Cain's head. Cain should never have killed Abel in the first place, so, leaving the murder aside, the proper understanding of the human relationship ought to be phrased thus: "Indeed, I am my brother's keeper. I am not, however, my brother."

The Church is the Body of Christ, and each

member of the Body bears responsibility for the others. Yet, if I have a rotten tooth, I do not ask the doctor to chop my foot off. Nor, if my leg is gangrened, do I go and have my kidney out. A rotten tooth or a gangrened leg make the entire body feel unwell; they do not, however, place the culpable burden for that unwellness on a different part. The body has a toothache because the tooth aches; the body hurts from the stiffness of a swollen knee because the knee is swollen. (Now, Christ does take all of those aches and pains [namely, sins] upon Himself on the Cross in atonement for them, but Christians, as sinners, cannot do that in the same way).

As I am not my brother, I ought not be blamed for his actions. I am not culpable because my fellow Christian, Joe, robbed Harry. As my brother's keeper, however, I will be culpable should Joe tell me that he is going to rob Harry and I do nothing to prevent him, or if I, lucklessly aware of his ploy, watch him sneak up to Harry but simply shrug and turn away.

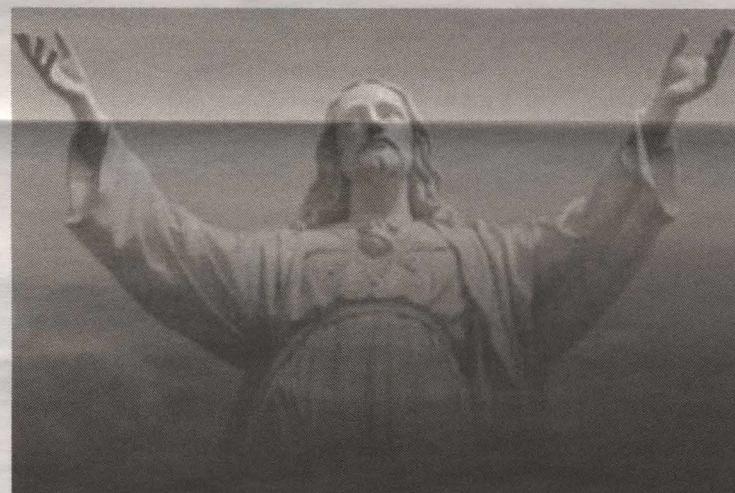
Being my brother's keeper seems to extend further than keeping him

from doing harm. I have a duty not only to impel my brother to behave as he ought (and he, me), but also to behave in such a way that does not dissuade him. If I am Joe, I ought not rob Harry for a plethora of reasons, one among them being that my robbing of Harry might cause my non-Christian brothers and sisters to think, "What kind of a Christian is Joe? If that's what Christians are like, then I certainly don't want to be one."

And if Joe's theft is recorded in the history books and remembered throughout the ages, as the acts of some of the conquistadores were, Christians hundreds of years after him will be called upon to answer for his actions.

As a Christian, my every word and act is under scrutiny, not because I am so important, but because Christ is. Saint Teresa of Avila, a Spanish mystic

who lived during the time of las Casas and the conquistadores, wrote, "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours...Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which He blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are His body." The way that I use my hands and feet is a way of saying, "This is how Christ would act." I am called to be Christ in the world and ought to comport myself in a way that is worthy of Him. Should I not dissuade His children from coming to know Him better and place the rest of the ecclesial Body in the uncomfortable position of having to account for me. It is my duty as a Christian to act as Christ would out of a love for my brethren for whom I bear responsibility and for my brethren who bear responsibility for me.



(Courtesy of @marcelo_palermo on Twitter)

Lessons from a Cow this Ash Wednesday

BY KATELYN MCCARTHY
OPINION WRITER

Last week, upon returning to my residence hall after class, I was startled to find a skull the size of a watermelon smiling at me from the entrance to my suite. My friends, having gone hiking in the hills behind the cross, happened upon an animal's skeleton submerged in a marsh and took a few of the bones back as souvenirs. It turned out to be a cow. It has eye sockets larger than golf balls, all of its teeth, and a few cracks running up and down.

It's timely that my friends found the skull when they did. Lent begins this Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, with the refrain, "Remember

that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

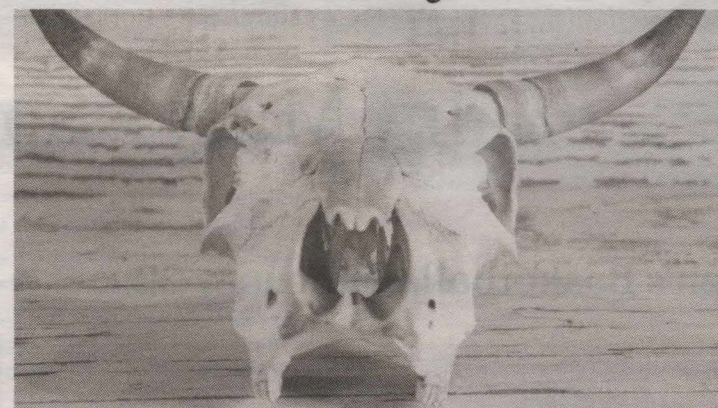
It's easy to remember this when you have a skull grinning at you as you do your homework. But let's remember it in a different way. Think about the books you read and study for your classes. Some of them have been written by individuals who passed away many years ago. We read plays that describe emotions and struggles in characters who would have long since died, scientific breakthroughs from people who can no longer reap them themselves, and statistical analyses from thinkers who can add to their works no more. Why did they do

what they did? And why do we do what we do?

Why do we sit in class, why do we study, why do we go for hikes behind the cross, when someday we will be as that cow skull, or as the ashes on our foreheads?

It seems to me to be a bit off-track if we contend that property, prestige, pleasure, or power are the reasons for our actions. These things aren't permanent—they fade away. Just ask the cow.

Aristotle believed that happiness was the true goal for which all humans longed. Christian thinkers agree with Aristotle that happiness is man's goal. They call this happiness the "Beatific Vision," or seeing



(Courtesy of White Oak Pastures)

God face-to-face in Heaven. The ends for which we humans slave—property, prestige, pleasure, power—are sought in the hopes that they might achieve us happiness. But they all fade with death. Any happiness they might provide is vincible. It can be overcome. It will end. But their overarching goal, which is happiness itself, is one which

can be achieved eternally through the same manner by which they themselves are lost. Death will lose you your property, your prestige, your pleasure, and your power, but it (coupled with a holy life) can give you the sight of God. That's something that you can always see, even when your eyes are as empty as those of the cow.

SPORTS

Teams to Watch Out for in 2020-2021
NBA Season



THE ATLANTA HAWKS versus the Minnesota Timberwolves in 2019. (Courtesy of Jason Getz-USA TODAY Sports)

BY SPENCER GAVIN
SPORTS WRITER

While there are certain teams in the NBA who are in the thick of the playoff race, there are many others already looking towards next season. A few of these teams are the Golden State Warriors, the Minnesota Timberwolves, and the Atlanta Hawks. These three teams are teams that are only a few pieces away from making the playoffs, if not contending, by next year. Obviously, the Warriors have the best chance to be back in the playoffs and possibly contending for a championship by next season due to the unusual state of the team currently. They are missing all-world point guard Stephen Curry and have missed him most of the season. Also, they will not see Klay return to the court until next season's

tipoff due to his ACL tear he suffered in the 2019 NBA finals. The team made some strides and flipped D'Angelo Russell to the Timberwolves for Andrew Wiggins and some picks which helps out their need at wing while ridding the team of a player who plays the same position as Curry. A tandem of Curry, Klay, Wiggins, Green, and with a potential top pick like James Wiseman or Anthony Edwards, next season's Warriors squad could be very dangerous. Another intriguing team is the aforementioned Minnesota Timberwolves. They finally lifted the curse of Wiggins's contract and received their point guard of the future, D'Angelo Russell, in return. Russell, a good friend of Karl Anthony-Towns, is only 23 and is only going to go up from here. With some veteran guys in the mix

like James Johnson and young studs like Jarrett Culver and Josh Okogie, this team needs only a piece or two more to solidify themselves as a perennial playoff team. I think that piece could come in one of two forms. The most sensical answer would be through the draft getting a wing guy like Anthony Edwards if he falls to their pick. Another potential possibility would be adding a guy like Devin Booker to the squad. Already fed up in Phoenix, Booker is part of the friendship trio of Russell and Towns. They have talked about a potential team-up, why not in Minnesota? The last team that could make the jump into contention would be the Atlanta Hawks. With Trae Young at the helm, the Hawks have the potential to be a serious dynasty. Besides Ice Trae, the Hawks acquired Clint

Capela at this year's deadline to shore up their defense and give them a rim-runner. On top of that, they have a young gun in John Collins and wing guys like De'Andre Hunter and Cam Reddish who give the Hawks serious depth. With this season most likely a wash for them, they will have a top pick in the draft and could pick up another shot-creator to pair alongside Trae Young, possibly Anthony Edwards from Georgia. Without a doubt, these 3 teams will surprise the league next year and really show the NBA what they have to offer. Obviously, the Warriors have their squad set, but it will be interesting seeing what the T'Wolves and the Hawks do this offseason and during the draft. It will be fun to check back and see if these predictions hold up next year around this time.

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Sports
this week

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Thursday, February 27, 6:30pm
vs Santa Clara
Moraga, CA

Saturday, February 29, 2pm
vs San Francisco
Moraga, CA

WOMEN'S TENNIS



Friday, February 28, 2pm
vs Oregon
Moraga, CA

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Thursday, February 27, 7pm
vs Santa Clara
Santa Clara, CA

Saturday, February 29, 7pm
at Gonzaga
Spokane, WA

SOFTBALL



Friday, February 28, 9am
vs Utah State
Davis, CA

Saturday, February 29, 11:30am
vs UConn
Davis, CA

Saturday, February 29, 2pm
vs. Sacramento State
Davis, CA